

## **CHAPTER 34**

### **VEGETATION**

#### **ARTICLE II. TREES**

##### **DIVISION 2. URBAN FORESTRY BOARD**

###### **Sec. 34-71. Established.**

There is established an urban forestry board.

###### **Sec. 34-72. Membership; terms of office; ex-officio members; compensation.**

The urban forestry board shall consist of nine members. The Board of Commissioners shall appoint members from a list of qualified applicants who have submitted an advisory board application. Members shall be residents of the Town with the exception of a minimum of one member and a maximum of three members residing outside the corporate limits. Members shall serve three-year staggered terms with three members to be appointed or reappointed each year. No member shall serve more than two full three-year consecutive terms. Once a member has served two full consecutive terms, the member must be off the urban forestry board for a minimum of one year before being eligible to serve again. If any member shall fail to attend three consecutive meetings or more than half of the meetings in one calendar year without just cause, then they shall be replaced by the Board of Commissioners. Any vacancy that occurs during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Board of Commissioners. An unexpired term or a term of less than three years shall not count towards the term limit provision. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, all members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners shall appoint one elected official as an ex-officio member. The Town Manager shall appoint one member of the Town staff as an ex-officio member. Members shall receive no compensation for their services.

###### **Sec. 34-73. Organization; meetings; quorum; votes.**

(a) The urban forestry board shall meet for the purpose of organization as soon as reasonably possible after January 1 of each year. The urban forestry board shall elect its own officers who shall include a chairman and vice-chairman. The role of secretary shall be filled by the Town staff member appointed as ex-officio. The members shall propose bylaws for the transaction of business subject to the approval of such bylaws by the Board of Commissioners. A copy of the bylaws shall be filed with the Town Clerk and shall constitute a public record.

(b) The urban forestry board is a public body and shall meet on a regular basis but not less than quarterly. A special meeting may be called by the chairman, vice-chairman or three members of the urban forestry board. All meetings shall be held in accordance with G.S. 143-318.9 et seq. Minutes shall be kept by the secretary and filed with the Town Clerk.

(c) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members currently appointed. No proxies shall be allowed.

**Sec. 34-74. Duties.**

The duties of the urban forestry board are as follows:

- (1) To study, investigate, counsel, develop and/or update annually, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees, shrubs and other planting materials in parks, street and utility rights of way and easements and any other public areas. This plan shall constitute the official town urban forestry plan;
- (2) To advise the Board of Commissioners and Town staff in matters concerning the implementation of the official town urban forestry plan.

**Sec. 34-75. Authority.**

The urban forestry board has those powers specified in Chapter 34 of the Code of Ordinances.

**Sec. 34-76. Reports.**

The urban forestry board shall cause an annual report to be prepared and presented to the Board of Commissioners by October 1. The report shall include accomplishments of the past fiscal year and goals for the next fiscal year. Form and content of the report shall be determined by the urban forestry board, subject to the right of the Board of Commissioners to require additional information. Special reports and recommendations may be made to the Board of Commissioners as the need arises in the judgement of the urban forestry board or at the specific request of the Board of Commissioners.

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